

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-29 and 33-40 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled herein. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim amendments made herein have introduced no new matter. Claims 1-3, 9-10, 25-29, 33-34, and 37-40 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,359,589 to Bae ("Bae"). Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 distinguishes over Bae in that Bae fails to teach or suggest at least one of the distinguishing features of amended independent claim 1, namely, a ground plane that comprises at least one of a space-filling-curve shape and a multi-level structure. Bae neither teaches nor suggests a ground plane having either of a space-filling-curve shape or a multi-level structure. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of independent claim 1 as anticipated by Bae be withdrawn.

Claim 35 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bae in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,400,330 to Maruyama et al ("Maruyama"). Bae is cited as teaching every feature of claim 35 except for an antenna system being mounted inside a rear-view mirror of a vehicle. Maruyama is cited as supplying this admitted deficiency of Bae. Applicant respectfully submits that Maruyama fails to supply the deficiency of Bae noted above with respect to independent claim 1. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claim 35 distinguishes over the cited combination of Bae and Maruyama and respectfully requests that the rejection of dependent claim 35 as unpatentable over Bae in view of Maruyama be withdrawn.

Claim 36 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bae in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,271,798 to Endo et al ("Endo"). Bae has been cited as teaching every feature of claim 36 except for an antenna system being mounted inside a keyless door lock operation device. Endo is cited as supplying this admitted deficiency of Bae. Applicant respectfully submits that Endo fails to cure the deficiency of Bae as noted above with respect to independent claim 1. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claim 36 distinguishes over the cited combination of Bae and Endo. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 36 as unpatentable over Bae in view of Endo is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-8 and 11-24 have been objected to as being upon a rejected base claim, but have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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